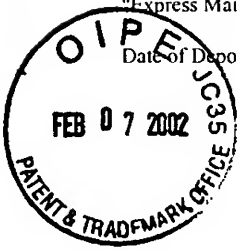


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8-22-02

"Express Mail" mailing label number EV 005610882 US

Date of Deposit: February 7, 2002



Patent

Case No.: 10200/16

Client Ref.: PM 99002

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

IN THE APPLICATION OF:

Tinghao Frank Wang

Group Art Unit: 1765

Appl. No.: To be assigned

Examiner: D. Deo

Filed: February 7, 2002

For: METHOD FOR SELECTIVELY  
ETCHING SILICON AND/OR METAL  
SILICIDES

Assistant Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

In accord with 37 C.F.R. § 1.78(a)(2), the above application claims the benefit of an earlier filing date. This claim is being made within the four-month statutory limit of the above application's filing date.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121, a clean copy of the amended specification paragraph effecting this priority claim, new claims, and amended claims is reproduced below. An Appendix is attached to show the changes made to the specification and claims by current amendment.

1007-1809-020702